



**SCOTTSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Civic Center Library Board Room  
November 15, 2006 - 3:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Camille Schmidt, Chair  
Denise Dowers, Vice Chair  
Paul Lison  
Linda Tardie  
Nancy Walker

**Members Absent:** Judy Lewis, Secretary  
Karen Quinn

**Staff Present:** Rita Hamilton, Library Director  
Debra Baird, Community Services General Manager  
Dan Worth, Municipal Services General Manager  
Linda Butson, Municipal Services Project Manager  
Marsha Greene, Library Coordinator  
Kathy Coster, Manager for Innovation  
Cheryl Thomsen, Library Administrative Coordinator  
Mary Warner, Administrative Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Schmidt called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Schmidt called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2006 meeting. Mrs. Walker so moved; Ms. Dowers seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

***Appaloosa Library Funding***

Ms. Baird and Mr. Worth said that changing community priorities and the rapidly rising construction costs of concrete and steel have caused a reevaluation of the budgets for several city projects, including Appaloosa Library.

They explained that in order to insure that sufficient funding is programmed to complete the project and to maximize the return on the remaining Bond 2000 funding, city staff developed a recommendation to adjust the scope and budget of the Appaloosa Library project. They would like to create a new CIP project for the purchase of Appaloosa Library books of \$2 million funded by Bond 2000 interest earnings, proposed for FY 08/09. This will free the existing project budget to allow design and construction to proceed without adding any additional funding, and still construct the library essentially as planned. Staff will present the proposed change to City Council for adoption in December. With Council support, staff will continue with the design and construction of the Appaloosa Library project and incorporate the recommended changes into the proposed FY 07/08 budget.

Ms. Baird and Mr. Worth asked the Board for its approval of this recommendation to go before City Council.

Ms. Schmidt called for a motion to approve the recommendation to City Council as proposed by Ms. Baird and Mr. Worth to create a new CIP project for the purchase of Appaloosa Library books of \$2 million funded by Bond 2000 interest earnings, proposed for FY 08/09. Mrs. Walker so moved; Mr. Lison seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

At this time, Ms. Baird and Mr. Worth thanked the Library Board for their support and, along with Linda Butson, left the meeting.

**LIBRARY STAFF REPORTS OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. 38-431.02 (K))**  
***Monthly Statistical Report – Cheryl Thomsen***

	<u>October 2005</u>	<u>October 2006</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Items Circulated	180,694	196,884	+9%
YTD Circulation	734,072	796,453	+8%
Attendance	115,440	123,623	+7%
YTD Attendance	446,235	451,537	+1%
Teen Center Attendance		8,853	

The Gift & Memorial Trust Account received \$292.88 in October; expenses were \$856.09. In the Library Book Sale Special Revenue Account, October income from sales was \$15,972.00 and expenditures were \$12,895.41.

In October 2006, volunteers donated 2,934 hours to the Library, and the public access computers were used 36,874 times.

***Library Director's Report – Rita Hamilton***

Ms. Hamilton said the Arizona Library Association Conference was in session in Mesa, Arizona, and one of the library's staff members, Library Technology Supervisor Aimee Fifarek, was awarded the AZLA Outstanding Library Service Award for this year.

Ms. Hamilton said the Friends of the Scottsdale Public Library held their annual *Spirit of Literacy* Award Breakfast on November 2, honoring organizations and individuals that supported literacy and the Library throughout the year. She thanked the board members who attended the event to represent the Library Board. Honorees for this year were The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, Scottsdale Charros and the Scottsdale Public Library's Teen Advocates.

Ms. Hamilton said the Greater Phoenix Digital Libraries held a kickoff ceremony to launch their digital collections of downloadable music, books and films. This is a collaborative project with five libraries, including the Phoenix Public Library.

Ms. Hamilton said the new library events calendar for November/December/January is published and contains many programs and events for Scottsdale residents, and distributed them to Board members.

Ms. Hamilton reported that the new Arabian Library project under construction is now out of the ground. The contractor is on schedule and on budget.

***How'd We Do? Report – Rita Hamilton***

Regarding a customer issue involving the library location selected for pickup when reserving books online, Ms. Dowers commented that she had experienced difficulty with the same issue. Ms. Hamilton said she would look into the problem.

***Library Services Highlight – Early Learning Interactive Centers - Marsha Greene***

Ms. Greene presented an overview of the many ways the Scottsdale Public Library is currently positioned as a partner in early learning resources in the community with programs such as Bookbites (providing board books and library cards to newborns in

area hospitals), Ready to Learn storytimes (held at the Scottsdale Public Libraries), Motherread (teaching parents how to read to their children), and Every Child Ready to Read.

She then described the Early Learning Interactive Centers planned for the new Arabian Library building and the other library branches, which are being funded through grants and fundraising by the Friends of the Library.

Ms. Green said recent research indicates that language and literacy development begins in the first three years of life and is closely linked to a child's earliest experiences with books and stories. It also confirms that young children learn most effectively when they are engaged in actively manipulating things and that this learning is enhanced when parents and/or consistent caregivers are involved in this process. Pre-school experience is the method of choice to provide these learning opportunities for reading readiness.

Scottsdale Public Library plans to design, fabricate and install museum-quality early learning centers with hands-on activities at each of its libraries. Design components will include attractive, colorful interactive pieces to target pre-reading skills, seating to encourage child/caregiver interaction, and spaces for the integration of board books, picture books, media and brochures. By placing these Early Learning Interactive Centers in the library, families will have an accessible resource for their children's pre-reading development.

Ms. Greene said the library is working with the Scottsdale Unified School District and Scottsdale Community College preschool education areas for input. A library marketing campaign will publicize the centers in the library event calendar, on the library website and at other venues within the community. The library will also collaborate with the city's Youth & Family Services Department and Paiute Neighborhood Center to market the centers to members of the childcare community and to at-risk families of preschoolers not otherwise enrolled in organized early learning settings. It will also create brochures that will explain in English and Spanish the purpose of the activities and how parents and caregivers can provide pre-reading skills activities in their homes or childcare centers. Mrs. Tardie suggested placing the information in school newsletters to reach every family with school age children. Ms. Dowers suggested including the information in the Bookbites program for parents of newborns at area hospitals.

#### **ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION** ***Expenditures***

**November 2006**

Volunteer & Donor Management Software	\$ 4,800
Early Learning Interactive Center – Arabian Library	20,000
Volunteer Graphics	1,200
Display Kiosks	<u>7,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 33,000</b>

After discussion, Ms. Schmidt called for a motion to approve the November 2006 proposed expenditures. Mrs. Tardie so moved; Ms. Dowers seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

***Appointment of a Nominating Committee -***

Ms. Schmidt asked the board for two volunteers to form an ad hoc Nominating Committee to present nominations at the December meeting for the 2007 term for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. Mrs. Walker volunteered to be a member of the Nominating Committee and also volunteered Mrs. Lewis, *in absentia*, to serve on the committee with her.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

***Announcements/Issues for Future Discussion***

None.

***Open Call to the Public (ARS38-431.02)***

None.

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. Schmidt called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Dowers so moved; Mr. Lison seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 4.42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Warner, Administrative Secretary